

Activity:	Special Programs
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Program Components	2003 Actual	2004 Estimate	2005			Change From 2004 (+/-)
			Uncontr/ Related Changes	Program Changes (+/-)	Budget Request	
Emergency and Unscheduled Projects	1,987	3,951	0	-1,451	2,500	-1,451
Seismic Safety Program	1,490	1,481	0	+19	1,500	+19
Housing Improvement Program	9,935	7,901	0	+99	8,000	+99
Dam Safety Program	2,682	2,667	0	+33	2,700	+33
Equipment Replacement Program	14,240	14,156	0	+344	14,500	+344
Narrowband Radio Systems Program ¹	15,544	20,392	0	+3,208	23,600	+3,208
Modernization of ADP Equipment	1,968	475	0	+525	1,000	+525
Total Requirements	47,846	51,023	0	+2,777	53,800	+2,777

Authorization

16 U.S.C. 1	The National Park Service Organic Act
Public Law 101-614	The Earthquake Hazards Reduction Act of 1977
Public Law 104-333, Section 814	The National Park Service Housing Improvement
Public Law 104-303, Section 215	The National Dam Safety Program Act of 1996

Activity Overview

Activities provide for the performance of minor unscheduled and emergency construction projects, improvement of public use buildings to withstand seismic disturbances and damage, inspection, repair or deactivation of dams, repair of park employee housing, ensure adequate inventories of automated and motorized equipment, upgrade radio communications equipment and the improvement of information management capabilities.

Emergency and Unscheduled Projects

To perform minor unscheduled and emergency construction projects to protect and preserve park resources, provide for safe and uninterrupted visitor use of facilities, accommodate unanticipated concessioner facility related needs, provide necessary infrastructure for approved concessioner expansion projects, and ensure continuity of support and service operations.

Seismic Safety

Improve the capability of public use buildings to withstand seismic disturbances and resulting damage.

Dam Safety

Inspect and repair dams, or deactivate dams to protect lives and park resources.

Housing Improvement

Repair the more seriously deficient park employee housing units, and replace others where needed.

Equipment Replacement

Ensure adequate inventories of automated and motorized equipment to support park operations and visitor services throughout the National Park System are purchased to replace existing inventories that have met use and age limitations. Ensure that adequate inventories of new equipment are purchased for units recently added to the National Park System so that park operations and resource protection can begin unimpeded.

¹ Narrowband funding indicated in FY 2003 and FY 2004 was supplemented by approximately \$22 million from Recreation Fee receipts and other accounts for a total program effort in these years of about \$58.0 million.

Narrowband Radio Systems

Upgrade radio communications equipment to ensure rapid response to emergency and life-threatening situations as they arise. Improve first-responder capability among all participating Federal bureaus during national emergencies through the SAFECOM initiative.

Modernization of ADP Equipment

Improve the information management resource capabilities of the Service to ensure timely processing of data and intra-office telecommunications into the 21st century.

Activity:	Special Programs
Program Component:	Emergency and Unscheduled Projects; Seismic Safety

FY 2005 Program Overview

This program is composed of two major components as described below.

Emergency and Unscheduled Projects: \$2.5 million

The FY 2005 proposal reflects a more manageable realistic program effort of \$2.5 million to address emergency and unscheduled needs. The National Park System contains over 30,000 structures and thousands of individual utility systems. Through the course of normal operations, these structures and systems can unexpectedly be damaged or fail, and require immediate attention to avoid more costly reconstruction in the future. Such work may require more than one fiscal year for project completion, but generally will not involve extensive planning or formal contract bidding procedures characteristic of line item construction. An example of the type of emergency projects funded from this program is the repair or replacement of potable water and wastewater treatment facilities damaged through fires, floods, mechanical breakdowns, and other unforeseen incidents. Over \$4.5 million in combined carryover and new budget authority funding was used for this purpose during FY2003.

The proposed amount for FY2005 reflects the deduction of one-time funding provided in FY2004 to reimburse the Department of the Treasury's Judgment Fund that was used to pay out two awards in favor of former National Park Service contractors

Seismic Safety of National Park System Buildings: \$1.5 million

The National Park Service Seismic Safety Program is mandated by Public Law 101-614, Earthquake Hazards Reduction Act of 1977, National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program Reauthorization Act of 1990, Executive Order 12699, Executive Order 12941, and NPS Directive 93-1. These mandates, along with related technical guidelines produced by the Interagency Committee on Seismic Safety in Construction and the Federal Emergency Management Agency, requires the NPS to adopt minimum standards of seismic safety in existing Federally-owned and leased buildings, and to apply appropriate seismic safety standards to new construction. Each agency has a seismic safety coordinator and works with the Department of the Interior Seismic Safety Program and the Department of the Interior Office of Managing Risk and Public Safety to evaluate, prioritize, and rehabilitate their inventory of extremely high risk (EHR), seismically deficient buildings. Information on the NPS seismic safety activities is provided annually to the Department of the Interior and biennially to the Federal Emergency Management Agency for inclusion into the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program Report to Congress.

The National Park Service continues to perform seismic studies, investigations, designs, and rehabilitation on public use buildings throughout the National Park System. Each bureau has developed a five-year plan to mitigate their inventory of EHR buildings. Because of the large number of EHR buildings in the NPS inventory (over 400), the NPS mitigation efforts will extend beyond the 5-year plan proposed by the other DOI bureaus. The Service is working with the Department and the NPS regions and parks to prioritize the list of EHR buildings for seismic rehabilitation.

For FY 2005, seismic safety evaluations, pre-design, design, and/or construction work will be performed on the following:

- Yosemite National Park – Seismic rehabilitation of the Rangers' Club (\$250,000).
- Yellowstone National Park – Seismic rehabilitation of the Mammoth Visitor Center and Museum (\$600,000).
- Golden Gate National Recreation Area – Seismic rehabilitation of the Park Headquarters and Visitor Information, Building 201 (\$450,000).

Remainder of the program:

- Detailed seismic investigations will be conducted at the following high seismic zone parks – Golden Gate National Recreation Area, Cabrillo National Monument, Hawaii Volcanoes National Park, Channel Islands National Park, National Park of American Samoa, Yellowstone National Park and Virgin Islands National Park.
- Detailed seismic studies and investigations will continue in parks located in both high and moderate seismic zone locations.
- The NPS will expand the program to include National Park System areas that have been upgraded to high and moderate seismic hazard zones by the recently released USGS Seismic Hazard Maps. The program will start to collect building inventory information on low seismic zone parks located adjacent to high and moderate zone boundaries.

For FY 2004, seismic safety evaluations, pre-design, design, and/or construction work is planned for the following:

- Yosemite National Park – Seismic rehabilitation of the Wawona Hotel (\$350,000).
- Yellowstone National Park – Seismic rehabilitation of the Gardiner Transportation Building (\$400,000).
- Lassen Volcanic National Park – Seismic rehabilitation of 15 buildings at the Drakesbad Guest Ranch (\$162,000).
- Seismic rehabilitation of Lake Hotel in Yellowstone National Park (\$325,000).

Remainder of the program:

- Detailed seismic investigations will be conducted at the following high seismic zone parks – Golden Gate National Recreation Area, Cabrillo National Monument, Hawaii Volcanoes National Park, Channel Islands National Park, National Park of American Samoa, Yellowstone National Park and Yosemite National Park.
- Continued follow-up work will be conducted in the south central Alaska parks resulting from the Magnitude 7.9 Earthquake of November 2002.
- Detailed seismic studies and investigations will continue in parks located in both high and moderate seismic zone locations.
- The NPS will expand the program to include National Park System areas that have been upgraded to high and moderate seismic hazard zones by the recently released USGS Seismic Hazard Maps. The program will start to collect building inventory information on low seismic zone parks located adjacent to high and moderate zone boundaries.

The National Park Service completed the following seismic safety activities in FY 2003:

- Eugene O'Neill National Historic Site – A \$450,000 seismic rehabilitation has been completed on the Tao House, a national historic landmark.
- San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park - A \$55,000 seismic rehabilitation has been completed on Building 169, a building that is being used for storage of archeological artifacts.
- A \$1.5 million seismic rehabilitation construction project continues on the William Penn Mott, Jr. Visitor Center (Presidio Building 102) at Golden Gate NRA.

- A \$575,000 seismic rehabilitation construction project continues on the historic St. Joseph Hall Building at Salem Maritime NHS. The building has a multipurpose function housing administrative offices, maintenance storage and operations, along with visitor interpretive center and educational programs.
- Seismic rehabilitation designs for the Horace Albright Training Center and Apartment Buildings at Grand Canyon NP have been completed and an estimated \$318,000 construction project will be awarded in FY 2004.
- Design documents have been completed on the Scorpion Ranch House at Channel Islands NP and a \$200,000 construction project will be awarded in FY 2004.
- Olympic National Park - Three buildings were identified as needing seismic rehabilitation after the February 28, 2001 Nisqually Earthquake. Design has been completed and an estimated \$100,000 construction award will take place in FY 2004.
- Evaluation and design recommendations were made for the Kennecott Mill Building at Wrangell –St. Elias National Park and Preserve after the magnitude 7.9 earthquake that struck central Alaska on November 3, 2002.
- Work on the design documents continues for the seismic rehabilitation of the Mammoth Hotel in Yellowstone National Park.
- Design documents are being prepared for the seismic rehabilitation of the historic building foundations for 18 buildings at Fort Cronkhite, Golden Gate National Recreation Area.
- Seismic rehabilitation drawings and specifications are being prepared for the Wawona Hotel in Yosemite National Park.

Detailed seismic evaluations were conducted on the following facilities:

- Stone House #20 at Crater Lake National Park
- Mammoth Visitor Center and Museum at Yellowstone National Park
- Lake Hotel at Yellowstone National Park
- Fort Mason Tunnel at Golden Gate National Recreation Area
- Park Headquarters Building 201 at Golden Gate National Recreation Area
- Volcano House at Hawaii Volcanoes National Park

The NPS has participated as a voting member on the development of the new American Society of Civil Engineers Standard ASCE 31-03 for the Seismic Evaluation of Existing Buildings and contributed to the development of the Federal Emergency Management Agency Handbook FEMA 154 for the Rapid Visual Screening of Buildings for Potential Seismic Hazards.

Other work includes answering questions and providing assistance to parks and regions on seismic related issues and review of projects containing a seismic mitigation component.

Activity: Special Programs
Program Component: Housing Improvement Program

FY 2005 Program Overview

Housing Improvement Program: \$8.0 million

In December 1996, the Park Service began a comprehensive review of the NPS housing program. The Service completed a comprehensive Housing Needs Assessment by an independent contractor in 1998. In 2002, the NPS obtained consultant services to explore the full range of feasible housing options, including public/private partnerships. The consultant's preliminary findings show that privatization through public-private ventures is not the best strategy for the NPS as a whole. However, because of potential partnership possibilities at Grand Teton and Grand Canyon National Parks, further study is being conducted; findings will be available by spring of 2004. In addition, the consultant will continue developing comprehensive business plans to help provide a long-term direction for the Service's housing program. A pilot business plan is being developed for Rocky Mountain NP in 2004.

The Service recognizes that the full cost of providing housing is a prerequisite for any cost comparison of feasible options and will compare these costs to the funding available from rent receipts, construction appropriations, and park base funding and to the costs involving the private sector. At the direction of the Department and OMB, and based on the findings of the consultant, the NPS will initiate and complete a housing report that articulates a strategy and timeframe to (1) measure the full cost of providing employee housing, (2) compare those costs with leasing or other alternatives, and (3) work with the private sector in developing alternatives to government-owned housing. Rental charges will also be examined to ensure they cover an appropriate amount of the costs of providing housing. NPS, the Department, and OMB will continue to look for ways to rely more on the private sector to provide housing for NPS employees. NPS policy is for the government to provide only the minimum number of housing units necessary.

In FY 2003, the Park Service funded 66 rehabilitation projects at 32 park areas; 9 trailer replacement projects at 7 park areas; and 5 housing removal projects at 5 park areas using housing improvement funding.

In FY 2004, the Park Service will continue to address the requirements of section 814 of Public Law 104-333, National Park Service Housing Improvement. Funding criteria and guidelines are used to prioritize all projects to ensure that the Service is directing available funding to the greatest need for repair, rehabilitation, replacement or construction. Rehabilitation projects focus on those units in less than good condition, with priority given to bringing units in poor condition up to maintainable standards. The NPS continues to assess the conditions of existing units to determine repair and maintenance deficiencies and associated costs.

The ongoing operational effort to evaluate the condition of housing stock will continue in FY 2005 as a part of the Service's larger efforts to improve asset management. Full life-cycle costs will become more apparent as the Service moves toward condition assessments of all facilities, including the housing inventory, and as the parks implement the Facility Management Software System. The FY 2005 request for the rehabilitation of existing housing structures and trailer replacement is part of the Administration's plan to reduce the NPS infrastructure backlog needs.

Park housing is a mission-essential management tool used to effectively and efficiently protect park resources, property, and visitors, and involves a long-term commitment. Condition assessments, trailer replacement, housing rehabilitation and removal of excess housing must continue. Park managers will use data received from inspections to develop cost-benefit analyses to determine fiscally responsible housing decisions. Where replacement housing is needed, the Service will determine the proper mix of housing and examine the possibility of larger projects being identified for line-item construction. For example, Yellowstone National Park, Grand Canyon National Park and Grand Teton National Park all have credible and verifiable housing needs that will require long-term planning efforts beyond the capabilities of the Housing Improvement Program.

In conformance with applicable benchmarks contained in the National Performance Review, the Service is also taking additional steps to ensure the cost-effectiveness of the replacement housing that will be built:

1. The Service will continue utilization of multi-unit dwellings and de-emphasize single-family units.
2. The use of standard designs and specifications will reduce overall design costs and meet modular homebuilders' specifications, thereby allowing that sector of the housing industry to competitively bid on projects.
3. All housing construction projects will be consistent with funding guidelines and funding criteria and will undergo a value analysis, including functional analysis to help determine the most appropriate number, type and design.
4. Any exceptions to the above will be reviewed by the Servicewide Development Advisory Board. The Director will approve all projects.
5. All housing projects will be subject to the Housing Cost Model as recommended by the National Academy of Public Administration (NAPA). Any project exceeding the cost predicted by the cost model will be reviewed and approved by the Director prior to construction or revised as necessary to meet the cost predicted by the model.
6. The Service will seek prior approval from the House and Senate Appropriations Committees before building any new housing capacity in national park units, including housing that may be provided as a result of public/private partnerships.

While this effort is a major step in improving NPS housing, work will need to continue in FY 2005 and beyond to complete the primary focus of this activity – to rehabilitate existing units and replace substandard trailers.

In FY 2005, major rehabilitation work will be performed on approximately 60 existing units in 25 parks to bring them up to a good, maintainable condition. Also, in line with efforts to replace unsafe and inadequate residential trailers and other obsolete housing throughout the System, the NPS proposes in FY 2005 to replace approximately 10 trailers in 5 parks with either a combination of permanent apartments, dormitories, and multiplex units, or an alternate means of housing such as off-site leasing. This effort will ensure acceptable living conditions for over 50 employees and their families. Formalized condition assessments of approximately 2,000 housing units will also be conducted.

FY 2003 Program Performance Accomplishments

Performance on NPS strategic goal:

- The FY 2003 target was to have 17% of the employee housing units classified as being in poor or fair condition in 1997 removed, replaced, or upgraded to good condition. Actual goal accomplishment was 22%. This goal will be revised for FY 2004 through FY 2008.

FY 2004 Planned Program Performance

Housing Facility Condition Index	2003 Actual ²	2004 Plan	2004 plan versus 2003 actual
Ratio of Housing assets' estimated deferred maintenance costs to current estimated replacement value	0.22	0.20	9% improvement

² The FY2003 FCI is based on initial condition assessment data.

Activity: Special Programs
Program Component: Dam Safety Program

Dam Safety Program: \$2.7 million

The National Park Service (NPS) Dam Safety Program is mandated by Public Law 104-303, Section 215, National Dam Safety Program Act of 1996; U.S. Department of the Interior Departmental Manual, Part 753, Dam Safety Program; and the NPS Management Policies, 2001. The program is coordinated with the assistance of the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR). The primary reason for creating this program was to prevent another incident like the Rocky Mountain NP Lawn Lake Dam Failure of 1982 when three park visitors were killed and \$30 million in damages occurred. Because of BOR's expertise and oversight of the Department of the Interior Maintenance, Operation, and Safety Dams Program, the NPS has regularly used their services and advice in managing NPS dams and monitoring non-NPS structures affecting the National Park System. The program is necessary because of increased activity and development around, and downstream of, these dams.

The basic goal of the NPS' Dam Safety Program is to either adequately maintain dams or deactivate them. While minor corrective actions are done using ONPS funds, this program annually addresses two to three major safety repairs/modifications on dams classified as having high or significant downstream hazard potential. To-date from all fund sources, approximately 219 dams have had corrective action completed, including deactivating 181 structures. For FY 2003, there were 8 repair actions conducted and 14 deactivations. It is estimated that 11 repair projects and 7 deactivations will be completed in FY 2004. There are an estimated 517 operational dams in the National Park Service ranging from major structures supporting large lakes to small weirs that support ponds. Current information is that 109 are in good condition, 193 are in fair condition, 169 are in poor condition, and 46 do not yet have a condition assessment. Formal dam safety inspections are performed every three years by the BOR for the larger, more critical dams. Parks are responsible for ensuring that the Annual Informal Inspections Reports are completed for all dams and recommended maintenance is carried out.

Dams Slated for Corrective Action, FY 2005			
Park	State	Dam and Proposed Action	Amount (\$million)
Cuyahoga Valley National Park . PMIS Record # TBD . 2002 Dam Rating 164	Ohio	Virginia Kendall Lake Dam – Provide overtopping protection & embankment modification – Ph 1 of 2.	1.35
Chickasaw National Recreation Area . PMIS Record # 95684 . 2002 Dam Rating: 346	Oklahoma	Veterans Dam – Replace spillway crest, remove vegetation covering dam, repair embankment & establish sod cover, repair historic flumes & install seepage control - Ph 1 of 2.	1.10
Prince William Forest Park . PMIS Record # 78108 . 2002 Dam Rating: 114	Virginia	Camp 4 Dam - Develop access road, remove vegetation from earth embankment & repair, establish sod cover on embankment, repair outlet works, & install seepage control - Completion	0.25

Use of Cost and Performance Information: Dams Safety Program

The Cascades Diversion Dam at Yosemite National Park was removed in December, 2003 and the "restoration" of the Merced River and adjacent roadside area is expected to be completed in April, 2004. Funding of \$3 million for the removal came from the DOI Dam Safety Program.

The NPS is the leading agency for the deactivation of non-essential or seriously deficient dams. To date, 181 deactivations have been reported. It is estimated that based upon an average annual maintenance and operation cost of \$20,000 per year for a small dam that the deactivation of these dams is saving an estimated \$3.6 million a year.

Thirty-eight dams have received major repair, which has prevented threat to life and major property and resource damage.

Activity: Special Programs
Program Component: Equipment Replacement Program

FY 2005 Program Overview

This program is comprised of three major components as described below.

Replacement of Park Operations Equipment: \$14.5 million

The National Park System has grown by more than 44 new units since 1990. These new areas must be equipped adequately to carry out basic park operations including maintenance, resource protection, and law enforcement functions. Older areas with aging inventories must have sufficient funding to replace equipment to ensure safe and efficient park operations.

Daily park operations are dependent on various types of vehicles, vessels and other support equipment. The park service fleet ranges from sedans and pick-ups to marine vessels, emergency response vehicles and heavy construction equipment.

In 2004, the Department and the bureaus began a collaborative effort to improve the management of vehicle fleets, including examination of the infrastructure for fleet management within each bureau, the identification of best practices that could be used Department-wide, and the development of action plans to improve fleet management and realize cost savings.

While the Service will pursue fleet management options in FY 2005 that will include reducing the size of the fleet and disposing of under-utilized vehicles, the replacement of high mileage vehicles and obsolete heavy construction equipment will be required to ensure the overall efficiency and safety of the National Park Service fleet and the stewardship of its facilities.

Replacement of emergency vehicles and equipment will protect the Service's infrastructure investment and improve visitor protection and safety. The Service's total vehicular, heavy mobile and other operations equipment replacement backlog as documented in the Project Management Information System is currently estimated at almost \$120 million. Like all government agencies, NPS is working to control this backlog by reducing the size of its vehicle fleet. A modest increase of \$0.3 million for FY 2005 will help offset higher replacement costs.

The Service's FY 2005 program also continues funding for improving structural fire suppression response capabilities through a four-year, \$7.8 million program for the acquisition of modern fire apparatus and related equipment. A comprehensive analysis to determine the most effective placement of engines is being undertaken during 2004 and the findings will be used to determine the locations to receive new fire engines. We anticipate replacing 6 additional engines during FY 2005. When this program is completed

we plan on having equipment meeting current standards at all Parks justifying them. Funds will also be used for crew training.

Conversion to Narrowband Radio Systems: \$23.6 million

In conformity with provisions contained in the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993, the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), U.S. Department of Commerce, has directed conversion of all Federal radio users to a new technology known as "narrowband" by January 1, 2005. The transition to narrowband equipment is intended to double the number of channels available to Federal users. Accordingly, those that are currently being denied access to wireless communications support (due to frequency congestion) will be accommodated when the transition is accomplished. Those networks that are not transitioned by January 1, 2005 will be placed in "secondary" status and, should they create interference to other duly authorized narrowband users, will have their frequency assignments revoked and will be required to shut down.

To meet new national interoperability, privacy and security requirements for public safety communications, encrypted digital radio technology is required for all public safety communications. The combination of requirements for Federal public safety organizations to utilize narrowband and digital technology requires complete replacement of all wireless equipment components; modification of existing components to meet the new requirements is not possible. Application of the technology requires new or updated needs assessments, sensitivity to issues surrounding the implementation and a complete re-engineering of existing networks that cover a large geographic area.

All new radio equipment must be compatible with the technology mandated by NTIA for all Federal users and security directives. The new system will:

- Improve the quality of public safety and law enforcement communications,
- Provide interoperability with other Federal agencies,
- Replace antiquated, failing communications equipment,
- Meet Federal telecommunications security standards,
- Offer better public safety services to park visitors,
- Present opportunities for sharing frequency, fiscal and physical assets among the bureaus of the Department of the Interior, and
- Provide increased security for protecting the national treasures against adverse activities.

The National Park Service is completing development of a Servicewide Capital Asset Plan for making a large-scale investment in new narrowband radio equipment in a cost-effective manner. The plan will maximize the use of other Departmental and commercially available communications resources, avoid redundancy, ensure interoperability with other public safety systems, and place highest priority on transition funding for the public safety communication networks of the U.S. Park Police and other NPS field areas where frequencies are most congested, or where communications resources are most inadequate, placing public and employee safety at greatest risk.

There are over 5,000 radio frequency assignments on over 300 radio systems in the National Park Service, most of them critical for public safety, park resource management, fire suppression, search and rescue missions, and park administration. A Servicewide inventory of all radio equipment as to type, remoteness of facilities and operational needs, and an assessment of park staffing that requires the radios was first conducted in 1998 and again in 2002 to determine field requirements and to forecast replacement costs.

Most of the existing National Park Service radio communications systems are out of compliance with applicable technological standards in the regulations of the NTIA and are unable to meet current network channel access demand and related communications service-area requirements. This requires a complete reassessment process and reconfiguration of all technological and supporting physical assets. This reassessment process will employ an open architecture that will permit technology upgrades and expansion of the systems to meet changed operational requirements. An ongoing assessment of field condi-

tions and implementation of the new technology in the Washington, D.C., area has revealed shortfalls in the existing system in areas patrolled by the United States Park Police in Washington, D.C., New York City and San Francisco. The Washington, D.C. system must have the capability to provide access to other National Park Service activities in the Washington Metropolitan Operational Area. Engineering services to assess the requirements, develop a technology solution, acquire the equipment, place it in service and conduct acceptance tests will be a two-year implementation process for large networks such as these.

In FY 2000, FY 2001, and FY 2002, \$1.646 million was included each year for radio equipment purchase and installation in parks. Park requests for radio replacement were prioritized by critical need and radio frequency congestion issues, as directed by the Department. An estimated \$15 million of FY 2003 NPS Equipment Replacement funds are being used to convert the Washington Metropolitan Operational Area to narrowband technology. Also during FY 2003, a Servicewide data call was made to ascertain regional and national priorities for the equipment transition. FY 2004 funding of \$20.4 million will be used to continue the conversion program and an increase to this program of \$3.2 million for FY 2005 will match funds from FY 2004 fee receipts and appropriate operational funding sources to complete the conversion of these priority-identified NPS communications to narrowband technology by the January 1, 2005 legislatively mandated deadline.

Within the amount requested for FY2005, the Service will apply funds to participate in the Departmental Wireless Public SAFETY Interoperable COMMUNICATIONS Program (SAFECOM). The nation's public safety wireless communications infrastructure is not equipped to meet the challenges that arise in emergency situations, primarily as a result of interoperability. SAFECOM provides a government-wide approach to help local, Tribal, State and Federal public safety agencies improve interoperable wireless communications. SAFECOM is working with existing Federal communications initiatives and key public safety stakeholders to develop better technologies and processes for the cross-jurisdictional and cross-disciplinary coordination of existing systems and future networks. This Department of Homeland Security initiative is intended to improve first-responder capability among all participating Federal bureaus during national emergencies. The Service's contribution to the program for FY2005 is \$0.756 million.

Modernization of Information Resources Equipment: \$1.0 million

For FY 2005, the Service will continue to improve its management of information and related business practices. Funds will be used to continue strengthening the Service's IT infrastructure and IT security, including protection of the NPS public-accessible web servers and to continue equipment replacement at the park and region level as they comply with the standard PC platforms established for the implementation of Active Directory throughout the Service. This replacement approach will aid the overall IT security of the NPS network as older, less secure equipment is replaced with PCs capable of running the newer Microsoft operating system with its integrated security features as required by the Department's IT Architecture. The funds will also enable the Service to implement the Active Directory more efficiently. An increase in this program will enable the Service to keep pace with mounting demands for more efficient, secure, and economical data processing equipment throughout the National Park System.